



## Child Development Home Complaint

Name of Provider Savanna Lange	County Linn	
Care Address 342 12 <sup>th</sup> Avenue SW	City Cedar Rapids	Zip Code 52404
Mailing Address	City	Zip Code
Phone 319/651-4333	Email	

**Date of Complaint:** October 17, 2014

**Date of Visit:** October 21, 2014

- ☐ Scheduled      ☒ Unannounced      ☐ N/A  
☐ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found      ☐ Compliance with Regulations Found  
☐ N/A

**RECOMMENDATION FOR REGISTRATION:**

- ☐ NO CHANGES to registration status recommended  
☐ REVOCATION of Registration

**CATEGORY OF CARE:**

- ☐ Category A  
☒ Category B  
☐ Category C (with no co-provider)  
☐ Category C (with co-provider)

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**Summary of Complaint:**

Complaint: On October 17, 2014 DHS received a complaint on the Registered Category B Child Development home of Savanna Lange. It was alleged Savanna Lange keeps a loaded gun in her purse. It was reported the purse is typically left on the dining room table in an area used for child care. On one occasion it was alleged Savanna took the handgun out of her purse to show someone. She unloaded the gun and handed it to this person and stated she always keeps a loaded gun in her purse. She told this person she had a permit to carry this weapon.

One of the children had a pull-up with dried feces when picked up from Savanna's child care. This resulted in the child developing a diaper rash.

A 5 month old child was fed only 7 ounces of formula in one day and the child normally eats 16-24 ounces.

It was reported Savanna has been found sleeping in the morning when a child is dropped off for child care. There were 3 to 4 other children observed in her care at the time this child was dropped off.

Savanna and her sister Jamie reportedly transport children to and from school without having permission from the parents. Reportedly Jamie helps out with the child care and is present in the day care home much of the time.

### **Rule Basis and Findings of Complaints:**

441 IAC 110.5 (1) Conditions on the home are safe, sanitary and free of hazards.

441 IAC 110.5 (9) c- Gives consistent, dependable care.

441 IAC 110.8 - i- Written permission from the parent(s) for their child to attend activities away from the child development home. It must include times of arrival and departure, destination, and person(s) responsible for the child.

Additional rules determined to be out of compliance not related to the original complaint.

441 IAC 110.9(3) a- There is a minimum of 35 square feet of child use space indoors for each child in care.

441 IAC 110.5 (h) A safe outdoor play area is maintained in good condition throughout the year.

441 IAC 110.5 (2) c- An individual file is maintained for each staff assistant and contains:

A completed DHS Criminal History Record Check, form B, 595-1396.

A completed Request for Child Abuse Information, form 470-0643.

A physician's signed statement of health and immunization status at the time of employment and at least every two years thereafter.

Certification of two hours of approved training relating to identification and reporting of child abuse within 6 months of employment and repeated every 5 years.

441 IAC 110.5 (2) d- An individual file is maintained for each substitute and contains:

A completed DHS Criminal History Record Check, form B, 595-1396.

A completed Request for Child Abuse Information, form 470-0643.

A physician's signed statement of health at the time of employment and at least every two years thereafter.

Certification of two hours of approved training relating to identification and reporting of child abuse within 6 months of employment and repeated every 5 years.

Certification in infant and child first-aid that includes mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

If they are unable to locate first aid training that includes mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, they must complete both a first aid course and CPR.

On October 21, 2014 DHS social workers Dale Garlinghouse and Melody Siver made an unannounced visit to the home of Registered Category B Child Development home of Savanna Lange. Mr. Garlinghouse observed a can full of cigarette butts on the front porch near the door. A child entering the home would have access to this can of cigarette butts. Savanna was observed providing care for two preschool aged children and her six-year-old daughter who is homeschooled. Also present was her sister Jamie, who Savanna reports has been assisting with the child care.

Mr. Garlinghouse and Ms. Siver asked to see where her pistol was located. She stated it was in the locked gun case in the bedroom. She took us to the bedroom and unlocked the gun case. Savannah pulled out her gun and showed it to us. She showed us the ammunition stored in this locked case as well.

Savanna was asked about the allegation of carrying a loaded gun in her purse and showing it to a parent. She denied she took the gun out of her purse to show anyone. She stated she had just gotten back from a trip with the children and put her purse on the kitchen table while she got the children settled in. Her purse did not have the middle section zipper closed. Savanna stated this person saw the open purse and the gun. When asked if the gun was loaded Savanna stated it was. She reported she carries the gun with her in her purse whenever she takes the day care children away from the home. Mr. Garlinghouse asked if the gun is always loaded and Savannah stated it was as it "would defeat the purpose if it was not loaded." Savanna explained she has been carrying the gun with her whenever she goes out into the community since there was a shooting in her neighborhood about 3 weeks ago.

Mr. Garlinghouse asked about the complaint about the child with the dried feces in their pull-up. Both Savanna and her sister denied this occurred. Savanna stated "she did not even know" this 4 year old child was in a pull-up until she found them in the child's bag. She reported she had asked the parents if this child needed help with toileting and they told her they did not. Savanna reported she checks diapers every 2 hours and changes diapers when children wake up from their nap around 3:30 p.m.

Savanna was asked about the allegation she fed a child only 7 oz. of formula over an entire day. She stated she has a policy the parents must supply the formula for their children and that was the amount they had given her that day. She stated she did give the child that amount as that was the only formula she had available. Savanna reported this child slept for the majority of that day. She stated this child was extremely tired as they had shots the day before and had not slept well the previous night.

When asked about the allegation she was found sleeping with children in care Savanna denied this has ever happened. She reported children arrive at 5:30 AM and she is awake and puts them back to sleep and then gets some coffee to stay awake. Savanna denied ever sleeping during childcare hours.

Savanna denied providing care to more than allowed as a Category B provider. She showed Mr. Garlinghouse the tracking system she completes daily to ensure she stays within the maximum number allowed for her category. This chart indicated this provider was not caring for more children than allowed for her specific category.

Mr. Garlinghouse toured the outdoor play area in the backyard. He observed a wheel barrow, several large stumps, a sand box with water and debris in it and Bamboo chutes in a barrel and all were accessible to a child. There were wires on back of the home for the cable television hookup that were not covered and were accessible to a child.

Mr. Garlinghouse asked about Savanna and Jamie transporting children and whether they had written permission from the parents to do so. Initially both Savanna and Jamie denied they transport. Then Savanna reported she transports a school-aged child to school and Jamie occasionally takes a day care child to school with her children. Savanna reported they have a verbal agreement with the parents but nothing in writing giving them permission to transport.

When asked if Jamie was an approved assistant and substitute Savanna reported sending in the paperwork to get her approved about two to three weeks ago. She stated did not send in fingerprints yet to do the criminal record check. Mr. Garlinghouse contacted the Centralized

Child Care Unit on October 31, 2014 regarding the paperwork sent in to approve Jamie. They reported they have not received any application or paperwork from Savanna to approve Jamie as an assistant or substitute. Consequently Savanna has been using her sister Jamie as an assistant and a substitute without DHS approval.

**Resolution and Action Required:**

Savanna and her husband Ryan Lange signed a safety plan in which they agreed to keep all firearms in their home locked in a secure location at any time day care children are present and during transportation of childcare children. In addition they agreed to lock and store ammunition in a separate secure location.

Savanna Lange signed a safety plan agreeing she would not use her sister Jamie or any other person as an assistant or substitute until she has written authorization from DHS approving that individual to be used in that role. She agreed to provide care to no more than six children at any one time, that she would not use her outdoor play area until it has been cleared of hazards and approved by DHS, and to allow DHS to conduct unannounced spot checks to ensure compliance and cooperate with DHS with validating these guidelines are being followed.

Consultant's Signature	Date
Supervisor's Signature	Date